

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 995

asked on 2 September 2021

MR R STEVENS ASKED THE MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS AND MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (HON D FARMER) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide an update on the Just Transition program, including current membership of the Just Transition Group and their current activities?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government's focus on all emerging industries presents a wide range of opportunities for Queensland workers. Recognising the breadth of these opportunities, the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training has established the Emerging Industries Workforce Development team. The Emerging Industries Workforce Development team is working across government, industry, and the community to plan for and develop a future ready workforce for emerging and priority sectors.

The Government's COVID-19 economic recovery plan is targeting investment to bring new industries to Queensland, and investing in the training and education needed to equip Queenslanders to respond to new opportunities and meet the changing needs of employers in all regions across the state.

Our approach to recovery includes significant investment in the \$3.34 billion Queensland Jobs Fund, to support the creation of new jobs in a range of emerging industries like hydrogen, advanced manufacturing, biofutures, biomedical, defence and aerospace.

The work of the Emerging Industries Workforce Development team in supporting Queensland's preparedness for new jobs in emerging industries has included:

- assessing emerging and growth industries in Queensland to inform future skills and training development priorities;
- establishing and supporting a stakeholder working group of industry, the training sector, academia and unions to commence planning for the skills and workforce needs of the emerging hydrogen industry;
- ongoing collaboration with the Government of South Australia as the lead on the skills and training actions under the National Hydrogen Strategy;
- continued engagement with energy stakeholders in their approach to engaging with workers and communities to plan for a lower carbon future.

Delivering on the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to create jobs for Queenslanders, the \$200 million Future Skills Fund ensures Queenslanders have the

skills needed for the jobs of the future, and providing modern infrastructure for TAFE Queensland to support high-quality training.

This is in addition to our Regional Jobs Committees which play a pivotal role in making sure local industry and community leaders, and local employers, trainings and educators can take advantage of these new opportunities.

The Emerging Industries Workforce Development team consists of five Full Time Equivalent employees.